

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EURE-00 MCT-01 SY-05  
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-----014967 081622Z /40

O R 081543Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1249  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
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USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION NATO  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, GW  
SUBJECT: TERRORISTS MAKE DEMANDS IN SCHLEYER CASE

REF: (A) BONN 14532, (B) DUESSELDORF 1413, (C) USMISSION  
USBERLIN 2325

1. THE PAST 24 HOURS HAVE BROUGHT SEVERAL DEVELOPMENTS  
IN THE KIDNAPPING OF HANNS MARTIN SCHLEYER. FRG  
AUTHORITIES ARE IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE TERRORISTS AND  
BELIEVE THAT SCHLEYER IS STILL ALIVE. THEY ARE PLAYING  
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FOR TIME, IN PART BECAUSE THE METHOD OF COMMUNICATION IS  
AWKWARD AND IMPERFECT. IN EXCHANGE FOR SCHLEYER'S LIFE,  
THE TERRORISTS HAVE DEMANDED: (A) RELEASE OF 11 IM-  
PRISONED TERRORISTS, INCLUDING THE HARDCORE OF THE  
BAADER-MEINHOF GANG; (B) DM 100,000 FOR  
EACH RELEASED TERRORIST; (C) PROVISION FOR THE RELEASED  
PERSONS TO FLY FROM FRG TERRITORY TO AN UNSPECIFIED

COUNTRY; AND (D) SUPERVISION OF THIS EXERCISE BY A UN REPRESENTATIVE AND PASTOR MARTIN NIEMOELLER. NIEMOELLER IS AN AGED PACIFIST AND CHURCHMAN WHOSE NAME HAS LONG BEEN LINKED WITH CONTROVERSIAL CAUSES, BUT NEVER WITH TERRORIST GROUPS. IN GENERAL, THE TERRORIST DEMANDS BEAR A STRONG RESEMBLANCE TO THOSE RAISED - AND ACCEPTED - IN THE 1975 KIDNAPPING OF BERLIN CDU LEADER PETER LORENZ.

2. AS OF MID-DAY SEPTEMBER 8, THE FRG HAS GIVEN NO PUBLIC SIGN OF ITS INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO THESE DEMANDS. WITNESS A STRONG BELIEF IN MANY QUARTERS THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL NOT - INDEED, MUST NOT - GIVE IN. THERE IS ALSO A WIDESPREAD VIEW IN POLITICAL CIRCLES THAT TERRORISM IN THE FRG WILL GET WORSE, IN WHICH CASE CONCESSIONS NOW WOULD ONLY ENHANCE THE FUTURE MENACE. MOREOVER, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT IS NO DOUBT MINDFUL OF THE STRONG PUBLIC SUPPORT HE RECEIVED FOR HIS HARDLINE STAND AGAINST CONCESSIONS TO THE TERRORISTS WHO SEIZED THE FRG EMBASSY IN STOCKHOLM IN APRIL 1975.

3. OFFICIAL BONN HAS HELD A STRING OF CRISIS MEETINGS. THE CDU/CSU LEADERS HAVE ATTENDED THE MOST IMPORTANT ONES. COINCIDENTALLY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS MOVING EXPEDITIOUSLY WITH A PACKAGE OF ANTI-TERRORIST MEASURES WHICH PREDATE THE SCHLEYER CASE. LAST WEEK, THE CABINET DECIDED TO SEEK FUNDS FOR A MASSIVE UPGRADING OF ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEDERAL SECURITY FORCES. ON SEPTEMBER 7, THE CABINET PASSED A SERIES OF DRAFT LAWS TO SPEED UP MAJOR TRIALS, TO PERMIT LAWYERS SUSPECTED OF COMPLICITY TO BE BARRED FROM CONTACT WITH JAILED TERRORIST CLIENTS, TO PROVIDE STIFFER PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WEAPONS, AND TO ISSUE AUTOMOBILE DOCUMENTS WHICH WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT TO COUNTERFEIT. ON SEPTEMBER 13, THE CHANCELLOR WILL DISCUSS INTERNAL SECURITY PROBLEMS WITH LEADERS OF ALL PARTIES. (THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME TIME.)

4. WHILE A FEW OPPOSITION CIRCLES HAVE USED THE SCHLEYER CASE AS A MEANS TO MAKE POLITICAL CHARGES AGAINST THE SPD/FDP COALITION, ON THE WHOLE THE CDU/CSU LEADERSHIP HAS HELD BACK AND HAS CONCENTRATED ON ITS LONGSTANDING APPEAL FOR TOUGHER LAW-AND-ORDER MEASURES. HOWEVER, SOME SPD CIRCLES PREDICT THAT THE OPPOSITION WILL SOON TRY SYSTEMATICALLY TO TURN PUBLIC EMOTIONS OVER THE SCHLEYER CASE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. IN TAKING PAINS TO KEEP CDU/CSU LEADER HELMUT KOHL INFORMED, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT MAY ALSO BE SEEKING TO HEAD OFF FUTURE CRITICISM BY SPREADING RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT NOW LOOKS LIKE HOBSON'S CHOICE IN THE CASE OF HANNS

MARTIN SCHLEYER.  
MEEHAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, BUSINESSMEN, PROGRESS REPORTS, TERRORISTS, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009